

[Transcription begins]

#80 Wed. Feb. 7, 1945

Dear Douglas - A little longer wait than usual this time for you [sic] letter but when it did come, such a good long interesting epistle! (written by you 25 Jan. rec. by us 5 Feb.) No more news from Bob Stang yet but no one is giving up hope for they say the underground is very active and there is every chance that he is with them.

It is like you not to give us the slightest hint of dissatisfaction and I'm sure from now on under your new commander, life will be pleasanter & your new responsibilities under him sound most interesting, if arduous--the best of luck to you! You certainly were in a tough spot for awhile over the lost inventory but "all's well that end's well!" Can you explain to us just what becomes of your radar work, is that still under your new department or do you drop that entirely?

Yes, it was odd your meeting Bryson Dawson. I forgot that you were away from Coles so many summer[s]. Marilyn became well acquainted with him and his sisters Dottie & Arlene. I think Bryson was married in Calvary because his wife's church was being re-painted.

I have noticed that you have said very little about your Sunday Services and am glad to know that your Captain is interested. Can we send any more music for your quartette--are you able to use the pitch pipe I sent?

We do enjoy the enclosed pictures you send so very much, preserve them all very carefully for they will be important mementos to you some day. The one of you was most welcome. You look just the same to me in spite of the long separation. Is it the one you mentioned having had taken by the little old Chinese[?] We think possibly you are in and out of Hawaii just now and we may be wrong and you may be no where near there! The news from the Philippines [sic] is wonderful in spite of the dastardly burning of Manilla [sic] and the Berlin front looks pretty good! Dad sends you the Providence paper occasionally, not that there is anything special in it but because you may enjoy a home paper.

We scan the rescued list from the Philippines [sic], hoping to see Dave Westcott's name and Prof. Weidman who is Bob Weidman's brother.

Mrs. Dick is away so Mr. Dick had supper with us tonight and he and Dad are having a go at Gin Rummy with some of our nice records playing a soft accompaniment [sic].

Last night I had a great treat when Mrs. Jones and I went to hear Kreisler¹, the wonderful 70-year old violinist. Every seat in the Metropolitan was filled & no one stirred while he played.

¹ One of the most famous violin masters of his day, Austrian Friedrich Kreisler, was an orchestral composer and violin virtuoso.

There is plenty of ice and snow under foot. Daryl enjoys her trips to the store on the sled. It is amazing how the insulating Dad did has helped with the heating problem. I'm not fooling when I say that all during this cold spell, when the sun poured in the dining room in the afternoon, the thermometer would go up to 80 degrees with the furnace closed tightly!

Saturday night we played Bridge at the Millards' after a good old bean supper with the Metcalfs & Henrikson[s]. You must laugh hearing us always mention "beans" as the piece de resistance! But it is the only meal we can be sure of getting all the ingredients!

Sunday we went to Communion at Calvary. Something had happened to the heating apparatus & was it cold! All the men sat with their overcoats on and poor Dad had to go sit down in the boiler room, he got so chilly. I didn't mind it too much & felt the services were well worth listening to. The choir as usual was fine. Mary Noyes was home. I understand she & Clara & Bonnie have a chance for a get-together once in a while in Washington. I saw Clara when she was home & think I wrote you that she looked fine & seemed real happy.

Mrs. Brown tells me that John Brown & Roger Frost met at San Francisco & attended the "Mikado." They think Roger is soon to go out. Everett Jones writes of exchanging an old pair of pajamas with a native Filipino for a knife & hand carved frame. (By the way, two of your pictures were censored, one evidently showed a gun on your ship & that corner of the picture was cut out & the other showing the launch leaving the slip evidently showed some other prominent ship in the background for that was cut out & as it cut write [sic] thru you [sic] handwriting on the back I felt you didn't do it!)

Dad's meetings are piling up--two for the Councilman & a CYMBC one, all for next Monday night!

Bob Hard has just received his wings and is home on leave.

We appreciate so much your taking the time to write us when you were so terribly busy, and having so little sleep. We do hope things have eased by now but we realize that the good job done on the Philippines [sic] meant plenty of work for the Navy as well as the army but the pins on my two wall maps are being moved with gratifying speed & the end of it all must come some day and I pray sooner than we dare expect.

You've been away sixteen months. Just that much nearer the time you'll come home! All our love and prayers.

Mother [Transcription ends]